THE CLAIMS

What I claim as my invention is:

1. A method for using a computer to enable or to facilitate
   the sending or transmission of email or electronic mail
   communication in which the Sender party, at or before the
   time of sending or transmitting the communication, pays a
   fee, bears a cost, or provides consideration which
   benefits in part the receiving party, comprising:

   i.   utilizing a network presence;

   ii. establishing and organizing one or more

        network or Internet-based Merchant

        Intermediaries, email gateways, message

        centers, e-commerce sites, or combinations

        thereof;

   iii. enabling one or more Sender Parties to input

        terms or information—into the website,

        computer, or other database, including by the

        use of clicks on hypertext links, to search

        for or to locate a Receiver Party or an

        address, name, account, location, affiliation,

or reference identification associated with a specific party to receive the communication;

iv. enabling one or more Sender Parties to input into the computer information (including inputting text, graphics, sound, or other information), that creates, formats, forwards, edits, modifies, addresses, or directs a communication or transmission;

v. enabling one or more Sender Parties to input into the computer a payment identifier, account information, security code, or other information to enable a Sender_party to pay for, to assume a cost or obligation, to charge or otherwise to bill, to account, to debit, to access benefits, to license, or otherwise to transfer benefits or consideration that in whole or in part benefit a receiver party;

vi. charging or requiring a threshold payment or transfer of benefits from Sender Party, at or before the time of sending or transmission of the Sender's communication to Receiver Party's account, ;

vii. segregating, transmitting, storing, holding, distributing, or passing through transmissions or communications to an account, address, or

location associated with a specific receiver
party,;

viii. compensating party who receives communications
or participates in the method.

2. The method of claim 1, in which the step of establishing
and organizing one or more network or Internet-based
Merchant Intermediaries, email gateways, message centers,
e-commerce sites, or combinations thereof, comprises:

   i. establishing one or more network presence(s)
   on one or more networks, computers, or
   devices;

   ii. establishing one or more internet-based web-
   sites or network based interactive information
   providers including those incorporating one or
   more databases, web-based email providers,
   email gateways, traditional mail servers, e-
   commerce sites, or combinations thereof;

   iii. organizing one or more internet-based web-
   sites or network-based interactive information
   providers including those incorporating one or
   more databases, web-based email, email
   gateways, traditional mail servers, e-commerce
   sites, or combinations thereof to allow
   Receiver Parties to input information; enable

Receiver Parties to provide requested

information (including contact,

authentication, or financial information

relating to Receiver Party) or other

information requested by Merchant

Intermediary; establish accounts (including

email and payment accounts); enable one or

more Receiver parties to list or publish

information about themselves on the network

presence or web-site of the Merchant

Intermediaries; bind Receiver Party to

agreement with Merchant Intermediary.

iv. further comprising:

establishing one or more email account(s) and

address(es) for Receiver Party, including

establishing unique addresses, accounts,

mailboxes, pass-through means, or other

identifiers or repositories for Receiver

parties to receive communications or

transmissions;

v. establishing and providing one or more_network

accessible searchable database(s), searchable

information display or interface of accounts,

names, persons, entities, identifiers, or

other references related to Persons or
entities that have agreed to or able to
receive email or communication for a fee to
enable a Sender party to browse, to search
for, to locate, or to find a Receiver Party
or an address, account, location, or reference
identification associated with a specific
Receiver party to receive the communication;

vi. and providing additional information, pages
references, links, or other data about or
concerning the receiver party or its
associations.

3. The method of claim 1, in which the step, or part of the
step, of to search for or to locate a Receiver Party or
an address, name, account, location, affiliation, or
reference identification associated with a specific party
to receive the communication, comprises:

~~i. ;~~

ii. verifying, checking, or authenticating that
the specific Receiver parties to receive the
communication are authentically associated
with the commonly known party most often or
commonly associated in the public's mind with

the name or association of the name given as a
party intending to receive communication;

    iii. enabling the Merchant Intermediary, by
automated means and other means, to check and
verify the information provided by the
Receiver Party upon the Receiver Party's
establishment of an account and for the
Merchant Intermediary to verify by use of
third party authentication measures,
computerized, automated, in person, and
otherwise, that the Person or entity
requesting to be affiliated with the Name is
actually associated with the named Receiver
Party;

    iv. Providing a means for the Sender Party_to
search, find, locate, identify, and access
addresses, accounts, locations, or reference
identifications associated with a specific
party to receive the communication or
transmission;

    v. Providing additional information about the
receiver party or its associations.

4. The method of claim 1, in which the step of inputting
into the computer search terms or information to search

for or to locate the address, account, location, or reference identification associated with a specific party to receive the communication, comprises:

    i. establishing addresses, accounts, locations, reference identifications, identifiers, channels, codes, e-mail addresses, web site addresses or pages, storage accounts, or other repositories, pass-through accounts, addresses, sites, or means for parties to receive or to store communication or transmission;

    ii. organizing the addresses, accounts, locations, reference identifications, identifiers, channels, codes, e-mail addresses, web site addresses or pages, storage accounts, or other repositories, pass-through accounts, addresses, sites or means so that they can be searched and located by the name or association of the parties to receive the communication or transmission;

    iii. providing a means to search, find, locate, identify, and access addresses, accounts, locations, or reference identifications associated with an account or address

associated with a specific party to receive the communication or transmission.

5. The method of claim 1, in which the step of enabling one or more Sender Parties to input into the computer information (including inputting text, graphics, sound, or other information), that creates, formats, forwards, edits, modifies, addresses, or directs a communication or transmission, comprises:

    i. Providing services or means to enable Sender parties to input information such as text, audio, or graphics or to create, to format, or to direct communications, e-mail, or transmissions.

6. The method of claim 1, in which the step of enabling one or more Sender Parties to input into the computer a payment identifier, account information, security code, or other information to enable a Sender party to pay for, to assume a cost or obligation, to charge or otherwise to bill, to account, to debit, to access benefits, to license, or otherwise to transfer benefits or consideration that in whole or in part benefit a receiver party comprises:

i. Establishing terms, conditions, and legal agreements between the Sender Party and the Merchant Intermediary parties;

ii. Inputting or enabling Receiver parties to input into the computer information that forms the basis of a contract and to require or to allow the Sender Party_to accept or to form a legally binding contract or agreement between the Sender and Receiver parties on the Receiver Party's terms and conditions; ·

iii. Enable Merchant Intermediary to authenticate or to verify, by automated, in person, third party or other authentication means, the identity and information provided by a Sender Party;

iv. providing services or means to enable one or more Sender parties to pay for, to assume a cost or obligation, to charge or otherwise to bill, to account, to debit, to access benefits, to license, to provide consideration, or otherwise to compensate or benefit one or more other Receiver parties;

v. providing services or means to process payment, to transact financial transfers, to authenticate or authorize transactions, to

charge a party a fee or cost, to receive payment and consideration, to segregate consideration received, to account for consideration received, or otherwise to enable a Sender party to provide or to transfer consideration.

7. The method of claim 1, in which the step of segregating, transmitting, storing, holding, distributing, or passing through transmissions or communications to an account, address, or location associated with a specific receiver party, comprises:

    i. Segregating, storing, holding, or directing transmissions or communications directed to a specific receiver party in or to an web-based mail, traditional email, or other email account, location or address associated with a specific receiver party;

    ii. transmitting, passing through, or distributing communication to Receiver parties or to an account or address or location associated with receiver party on or corresponding to a receiver party's request or agreement to access or receive communication.

8. The method of claim 1, in which the step of compensating party who receives communications or participates in the method comprises:

      i. Receiving, authorizing, and segregating financial and beneficial transfers;

      ii. accounting for fees, revenues, costs, and other items;

      ~~iii. ;~~

      ~~iv. ;~~

      v. compensating or paying parties that have received communication or participated for his or her or their reception, participation, or per agreement.

9. A method for enabling or facilitating communication in which a Merchant Intermediary enables or facilitates one party to pay a fee, bear a cost, or provide consideration that in whole or in part benefits the party that receives the communication for the right or opportunity to transmit or to direct a communication to the receiver party, comprising:

      i. establishing an interface, site, identifier, or network presence on one or more networks or devices;

ii. establishing addresses, accounts, identifiers, channels, codes, e-mail addresses, web site addresses, storage accounts, or other repositories, pass-through accounts, addresses, sites, or means;

iii. establishing one or more unique accounts, or addresses for unique receiver parties in which the Merchant Intermediary may hold, segregate, or pass through information or transmissions directed to a specific Receiver, account, or address;

iv. establishing a means for a Sender party to locate the address or account of a specific receiver party;

v.   providing services or means to allow Sender parties to create, to format, or to direct communications or transmissions to specified receiver parties;

vi. providing services or means to allow Sender parties to pay for, to assume a cost or obligation, to charge or otherwise to bill, to account, to access benefits, to debit, to license, or otherwise to compensate or benefit the Merchant Intermediary or the Receiver;

vii. charging or requiring a threshold payment of
fee, accounting of pre-existing benefits, or a
present transfer of benefits or consideration
by Sender Party, or other party on Sender
Party's behalf prior to connecting, sending,
transmitting, or forwarding Sender Party's
communication to Receiver Party's account,
address, or to a location associated with a
specific receiver;

viii. providing services or means to receive fees,
to segregate benefits received, to charge
Sender parties a fee or cost or otherwise
processes financial transactions or transfers
associated with a Sender party's acquiring the
right or the opportunity to transmit or to
direct communication to an address or account
associated with a specific Receiver party;

ix. receiving, authorizing and accounting for
fees, revenues, costs, and other items;

x. transmitting, storing, holding, or
distributing Sender Party's communication to
Receiver parties or to accounts, addresses, or
locations associated with Receiver parties;

xi. compensating or paying Receiver parties for

his or her or their participation.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein the Sender party is

referred or delivered directly to a page, address,

account, or location associated with a receiver party

such that the Sender party does not have to input or to

search for or locate the page, address, account, or

location associated with a receiver party.

11. The method of claim 1 wherein the Sender party does

not have to input or enter any information or data

relating to the address, account, or content of the

communication because the Sender Party's_communication is

pre-existing or automatically directed, forwarded,

transmitted, or otherwise addressed or sent to the

address or account corresponding to the specific receiver

party.

12. The method of claim 1 wherein the Sender party does

not have to enter any payment identifier, account

information, security code, or other information to

enable the Sender party to access an existing account, to

transfer payment, or to provide consideration because the

Sender party's computer or other device, for example by

use of cookies or other means, automatically provides

this or other information.

13.   [Withdrawn]

14.   The method of claim 1 wherein the receiver party is

compensated with consideration other than money.

15.   The method of claim 1 wherein the receiver party may

set the terms, price, and conditions of the agreement or

communication.

16.   The method of claim 9 where the Sender Party's

communication is stored on the email server, host

computer, or other device of the Merchant Intermediary

and not transmitted immediately to another computer.

17.   The method of claim 1 where the Sender Party's

communication includes one of more types or kinds of data

or information including for example, text, characters,

audio, graphics, compressed video, instant messaging,

chat, voice, or any other type of information that can be

expressed in binary or digital form.

18. The method of claim 9 wherein the Sender party accesses the Merchant Intermediary by utilizing a voice network or communicates using voice or audio information.

19. The method of claim 1 wherein the steps or processes are automated or performed automatically, except for the steps iii-v of claim 1 where they require inputting information into the computer.

20. The method of claim 1 wherein the steps iii-v of the method and steps may be taken in different orders or sequences or performed simultaneously.